SR-520 Project: Initial Findings from Data Analysis

BACKGROUND (Data only for routes¹ in SR-520 project)

- About 600 weekday trips crossing SR-520, with about 2/3 in peak periods.
- Approximately 24,500 weekday rides on routes with approximately 80% of all rides crossing Lake Washington.
- Routes 255 and 545 account for approximately 2/3 of total project ridership for each agency.

	Trips Crossing SR-520		Annaul Hours	Rides		Rides/Hour	
	Weekday	Peak	Total	Weekday	Annual	Weekday	Annual
Metro	223	151	103,197	10,336	2,862,626	28.33	27.74
Sound Transit	377	256	133,811	14,120	3,807,206	28.66	28.45
Total	600	407	237,008	24,456	6,669,832	28.52	28.14

LOADS ACROSS SR-520

- Metro peak-only trips oriented to downtown Seattle (252, 257, 268 and 311) average maximum loads of 40-60 riders per trip.
- Route 277 trips, oriented to the U. District, have average loads of 10-25 riders per trip.
- All-day Route 255 is heavily peak-direction oriented (to Seattle in AM and to Kirkland in PM), with peak direction trips having average maximum loads in the 50-70 range opposed to average maximum loads in the 20-30 range at other times.
- Sound Transit Route 540 carries more riders in the traditional peak-direction (to U. District in AM and to Kirkland in PM), with peak direction trips having average max loads in the 20-30 range and dropping by about half in the other direction.
- Sound Transit Route 541 is struggling to generate riders in either direction with most trips averaging 10-20 average max rides. (This may change with the closing of the Overlake P&R)
- Sound Transit Route 542 carries a similar amount of riders in both directions in the peaks, with average max peak loads in the 25-40 range. Off-peak trips are currently generating average max loads of about 10-20.
- Sound Transit Route 545 also carries strong loads (40-70) in both directions in the peaks, however the peaks seem to be a bit wider in the traditional peak direction. Off-peak average max loads across Lake Washington fall into the 20-40 range.

¹ Project routes include, Metro: 252, 255, 257, 268, 277 and 311; Sound Transit: 540, 541, 542, 545, 555 and 556.

MARKET SEGMENTATION

Downtown Seattle oriented routes:

Westbound:

- During the AM Peak and Midday, about 40% of riders are heading to midtown, about 33% of riders are heading to the north part of downtown and about 20% of riders are heading to the south part of downtown. The remaining 6-7% if riders get off at Montlake Freeway Station.
- During the PM Peak and Evening, on Route 255, about 30-40% of riders are heading to midtown, about 10% of riders are heading to the north part of downtown and about 20-40% of riders are heading to the south part of downtown. About 15-20% of riders are alighting at Montlake Freeway Station.
- During the PM Peak and Evening, on Route 545, about 30% of riders are heading to midtown, about 40% of riders are heading to the north part of downtown and about 15% of riders are heading to the south part of downtown. About 15% of riders are alighting at Montlake Freeway Station.

Eastbound:

- During the AM Peak and Midday, on Route 255, about 35-45% of riders are boarding in the south part of downtown, about 25-35% are boarding in midtown and 15% in the north part of downtown. Approximately 15% of riders are boarding at the Montlake Freeway Station.
- During the AM Peak and Midday, on Route 545, about 25-35% of riders are boarding in the south part of downtown, about 25-30% are boarding in midtown and 10-20% in the north part of downtown. Approximately 20% of riders are boarding on Capitol Hill and 10% of riders are boarding at the Montlake Freeway Station.
- During the PM Peak, about 15% of riders are boarding in the south part of downtown (Route 255 is an exception with 25%), about 50% boarding in midtown and 30% boarding in the north part of downtown (Route 255 is an exception with 20%). The remaining 4-6% of riders board at the Montlake Freeway Station.

Eastside Residential Orientations (riders heading west in AM and east in PM):

- On Routes 252 and 257, approximately 40% of riders access the routes in the Kingsgate neighborhood portion and 50% of riders access the routes at the Kingsgate P&R. The remaining 10% of riders access the routes along SR-520 or at the Totem Lake Freeway Station.
- On Route 255, about 40% of riders access the route at the South Kirkland P&R. The Kirkland core accounts for about 25% of riders. Kingsgate, Juanita, Totem Lake and South Kirkland stops (not at P&R) each account for about 5-10% of riders.
- On Route 268, about half of riders access the route at Bear Creek P&R, while about a quarter of riders access the route at Overlake and 20% of riders access the route in East Redmond.
- On Route 277, about a quarter of riders access the route at Houghton P&R. About 20% of riders access the route in East Kirkland. Juanita, Kingsgate, Kingsgate P&R, Rose Hill and Totem Lake each account for about 10% of riders.

- On Route 311, in the morning about 45% of riders board at Woodinville, 40% of riders board at Brickyard and 10% of riders board at Totem Lake. In the afternoon, 35% of riders alight at Woodinville, 35% of riders alight at Brickyard and 25% of riders alight at Totem Lake.
- On Route 540, about 65% of riders access the route at South Kirkland P&R and 30% of riders access the route at the Kirkland Transit Center.
- On Route 542, about 60% of riders access the route at Redmond TC and about 30% of riders access the route in Overlake.
- On Route 545, about 45% of riders access the route at Redmond TC, 35% of riders access the route in Overlake and 10% of riders access the route at Bear Creek P&R.

Eastside Employment Orientations (riders heading east in AM and west in PM):

- On Route 255, about 35% of riders are destined for locations near the South Kirkland P&R, 30% of riders are heading to the core of Kirkland and about 15% for Totem Lake.
- On Route 542, about 75% of riders are destined for locations in Overlake and 20% of riders are heading to Redmond.
- On Route 545, about 65% of riders are destined for locations in Overlake, 15% of riders are heading for locations near Bear Creek, and approximately 6% for downtown Redmond.

Eastside Off-Peak Orientations

- On Route 255, about 25% of riders access the route at the South Kirkland P&R. The Kirkland core accounts for about 25-30% of riders. Kingsgate, Juanita, Totem Lake and South Kirkland stops (not at P&R) each account for about 10% of riders.
- On Route 542 westbound (to U. District) about 50% of riders board in Redmond and about 40% of riders board at Overlake. Eastbound (from U. District) about 25% of riders are destined for Redmond and 70% are destined for Overlake.
- On Route 545, 20-35% of riders access the route at Redmond TC, 40-60% of riders access the route in Overlake and 10% of riders access the route at Bear Creek P&R.